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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN DRIVE NEARS GOAL

CHARLESTON, IL.--Eastern Illinois University United Way volunteers are nearing their goal for the FY90 campaign, but campus United Way committee members emphasize the need for additional support from the University to reach their goal.

Dr. Calvin Smith, a member of Eastern's United Way central committee and vice president of the Eastern Coles County United Way Board, said, "We are very pleased with what has been raised thus far, but these last few weeks are crucial to the campaign's success. Now more than ever, we need those who have not contributed to come forth and show their support for the 24 local agencies the United Way helps."

Eastern faculty, staff and students have raised \$23,300 or 93 percent of their \$25,000 goal.

"We are confident that Eastern's goal will be reached and hopefully surpassed as it was last year," Smith added.

Eastern's Student Challenge Committee, led by senior Bob Myrvold of Decatur, has raised more than \$300 toward its \$800 goal for Eastern's campaign through a Residence Hall Association sponsored bowl-a-thon and Halloween haunted house, a "United Way Day" at a recent home football game and other donations. Some residence hall students are also participating in the drive by setting a monetary goal for their halls, Myrvold said.

"I am optimistic that we will reach our goal since we are still collecting money from organizations and United Way fund raising events," Myrvold added.

Among the agencies the United Way of Eastern Coles County supports are the Boy and Girl Scouts, Charleston Community Day Care, Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Coles County Council on Aging, East Central Alcohol and Drug Council, and the Charleston Area Senior Activities. Many of these agencies operate entirely on the support they receive from the United Way.